

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/769,584

Applicant(s)

CARRIGAN, LORI LISA

Examiner

Anne R. Kubelik

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☒ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☒ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lila Akrad on 6 September 2005.

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1, "Seed" was replaced with --A seed--.

In claim 7, --produced-- was inserted after "are" in line 1.

In claim 9, lines 1 and 2, "F1" was deleted.

In claims 13-15, line 1, a comma was inserted after "12".

16. A method of modifying fatty acid metabolism, phytic acid metabolism or carbohydrate metabolism in a hybrid maize variety 37A91 comprising:

(a) crossing at least one of inbred maize parent plants GE16835 and GE616852, representative seed of which have been deposited under ATCC Accession Nos. as ____ and ____ respectively, with another maize line that comprises a nucleic acid molecule encoding an enzyme selected from the group consisting of phytase, ~~stearyl-ACP desaturase~~, fructosyltransferase, levansucrase, alpha-amylase, invertase and starch branching enzyme or encoding an antisense of a nucleic acid encoding stearyl-ACP desaturase;

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(b) selecting said F1 progeny plants that have said nucleic acid molecule to produce selected F1 progeny plants;

(c) backcrossing the selected progeny plants with said inbred maize parent plant to produce backcross progeny plants;

(d) selecting for backcross progeny plants that have said nucleic acid molecule and morphological and physiological characteristics of said inbred maize parent plant to produce selected backcross progeny plants;

(e) repeating steps (c) and (d) three or more times in succession to produce a selected fourth or higher backcross progeny plants; and

(f) crossing said fourth or higher backcross progeny plant with the other inbred maize parent plant to produce a hybrid maize variety 37A91 that comprises said nucleic acid molecule and has all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of hybrid maize variety 37A91 listed in Table 1 as determined at the 5% significance level when grown in the same environmental conditions.

Examiner's Statement Of Reasons

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach or suggest a hybrid corn plant with the characteristics of 37A91. The closest prior art is taught by Colbert (2005, US Patent 6,914,178), but this plant has yellow anthers and a light green glume, while 37A91 has a light red glume and green-yellow anthers.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

REQUIREMENT OF ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.801-1.809

3. The Deposit Statement on pg 62 of the specification is deemed in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.801-1.809. Therefore, no 35 USC § 112, first paragraph rejection has been maintained even though it is apparent that 37A91, GE16835 and GE616852 maize seed is essential to the claimed invention and that the deposit is necessary for an adequate written description and enablement for the claimed invention.

Since the application is otherwise in condition for allowance except for the needed deposit of 37A91, GE16835 and GE616852 seed and since the Office has received written assurance that an acceptable deposit will be made on or before payment of the issue fee, the Office is authorized to mail Applicant a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due together with a requirement that the needed deposit be made within THREE (3) MONTHS of the mail date of this letter (see 37 CFR § 1.809(c)).

Under 37 CFR § 1.809(c)(d) an applicant is required to make a deposit of seed within three months after the mailing date of the Notice Of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. The period for satisfying this requirement is extendible under ' 1.136, however, failure to make the needed deposit of seeds of 925847 will result in abandonment of the application for failure to prosecute. The deposit statement in the specification, and all claims which refer to the instant seeds by name, must be amended to include the deposit accession number. In the instant application claim 1 must be amended to recite the deposit accession number. These amendments should be submitted before the payment of the issue fee as an Amendment After Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.312. If the amendment is received after the payment of the issue fee the same should be made under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.312(a) and a petition filed under 37 CFR § 1.183 to waive the requirement of 37 CFR § 1.312 that the amendment be filed before or with payment of the issue fee, that is, it must be accompanied by a fee in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.17(i) and a petition which includes "a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the amendment is

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necessary and was not earlier presented and why justice requires waiver of the rule". Finally, the statement of deposit in the specification shall contain:

- (1) The accession number for the deposit(s);
- (2) The date of the deposit(s);
- (3) A description of the deposited biological material sufficient to specifically identify and to permit examination; and
- (4) The name and address of the depository (see 37 CFR § 1.809(d)).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne R. Kubelik, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0801. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jones, can be reached at (571) 272-0745.


The central fax number for official correspondence is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Anne R. Kubelik, Ph.D.
September 6, 2005



ANNE KUBELIK, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER